GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4221
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
OPEN CAST MINES OF NECL
PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the duration for which the existing open cast mines of the North Eastern Coalfields are going to last;

(b) Whether the Coal India Limited has any proposal for starting other open cast project at new sites in theevent of the existing O.C.Ps. of North Eastern Coalfields being saturated; and

(c) if so, the the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARATI)

(a): Existing opencast mines of North Eastern Coalfields (NEC), namely, Tirap OC mine and Tikak OC mine are going to last for 2 to 3 years and 10 to 12 years respectively.

(b) & (c): Six sites within leasehold and three sites outside the leasehold of NEC have been identified for opencast mining. However, only those sites which are economically viable, will be taken up for exploitation.

Moreover, Project Report for Lekhapani opencast isunder preparation at Central Mine Planningand Design Institute (CMPDI). Exploration to study geology of a block named `Jagun block` has also been approved.